

2017 -- H 5198

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

A N A C T

RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- VETERANS' BENEFITS

Introduced By: Representatives Vella-Wilkinson, Nardolillo, Lancia, Solomon, and
Barros

Date Introduced: January 25, 2017

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 30-22 of the General Laws entitled "Extension of Veterans'
2 Benefits" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **30-22-7. Change in treatment of certain discharges.**

4 For any purpose regarding the qualification of a veteran for state veterans' benefits, a
5 general discharge, or an "Undesirable Discharge - Class I or II Homosexual" which was based
6 upon the sexual orientation of the veteran, shall entitle the recipient to those state benefits
7 accorded veterans receiving honorable discharges.

8 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- VETERANS' BENEFITS

1 This act would permit the recipients of general or an "Undesirable – Class I or II
2 Homosexual" discharges to qualify for state veterans' benefits when the discharge was based on
3 the veteran's sexual orientation.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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